United Nations A/C.3/69/L.12

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 October 2014

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Third Committee
Agenda item 26 (b)
Social development: social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Bolivia (Plurinational State of):* draft resolution

Observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012 and 68/136 of 18 December 2013 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

Recalling also that relevant United Nations instruments on human rights as well as relevant global plans and programmes of action call for the widest possible protection and assistance to be accorded to the family, bearing in mind that in different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist,

Recalling further that the family is the basic unit of society and, as such, should be strengthened, and that it is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provide a useful opportunity to draw further attention to the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nation that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Noting the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies targeting the family unit and its dynamic as a whole and of taking into consideration the needs of its members, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work-family balance, sustainable livelihoods, social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

Recognizing that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Noting that single-headed households, child-headed households, intergenerational and intragenerational households are particularly vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion,

Emphasizing the need for greater inter-agency and regional cooperation on family issues in order to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Recognizing the efforts made by Governments, the United Nations system and civil society to fulfil the objectives guiding the preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family will be observed during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014[1] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Commends* the contributions of Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and other stakeholders to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

3. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes as well as the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and the outcome documents of their review processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

4. *Invites* Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

5. *Urges* Member States to give due consideration to advancing family policy development in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

[1] A/69/61-E/2014/4.

6. *Encourages* Member States to promote policies that strengthen social integration and intergenerational solidarity through investment in family-centred support programmes, including social protection assistance, the prevention of the abuse of older persons, the protection of persons with disabilities, including in particular children with disabilities, and investments in cross-generational facilities and intergenerational learning, and volunteer programmes for youth, older persons, mentoring and job-sharing;

7. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues;

8. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;

9. *Emphasizes* the need to address the needs of all families, including single-headed households, child-headed households, intergenerational and intragenerational households, taking into consideration that they are particularly vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion;

10. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to develop appropriate policies and programmes that address family poverty, social exclusion, domestic violence, work-family balance, sustainable livelihoods and intergenerational issues and to share good practices in those areas;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the delivery of family-centred benefits, such as housing assistance, child benefits, old-age pensions, cash transfers, social protection, social transfer programmes and other relevant measures to reduce family poverty and prevent the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

12. *Further encourages* Member States to promote policies in support of work-family balance, including the sharing of family responsibilities among family members and the promotion of responsible fatherhood, as part of their broader gender equality agenda;

13. *Encourages* Member States to invest in intergenerational programmes for helping families in their caregiving responsibilities and facilitating intergenerational exchanges and support;

14. *Also encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and in accordance with national plans and policies, to strengthen provisions for parental leave, extend flexible working arrangements for employees with family responsibilities, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, enhance paternal involvement in family responsibilities and support a wide range of quality childcare arrangements, including investing in quality early childhood care and education, in order to improve work-family balance;

15. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, civil society, academic institutions and the private sector to actively participate in the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

16. *Encourages* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, within existing resources, to continue to cooperate with Governments, the United Nations system and civil society on family policy development in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;

17. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities in order to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to continue research activities and provide assistance for projects of direct benefit to the well-being of all families, with a special focus on developing countries;

18. *Decides* to consider the topic "Observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its seventieth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".